

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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| COUNTRY           | USSR (Sverdlovsk Oblast)                                                                                                                           | REPORT          |                |
| SUBJECT           | City of Sverdlovsk; Atomic Plant at Verkh.-Neyvinsk ( <i>living conditions, antiaircraft gun factory, and security measures at machine plant</i> ) | DATE DISTR.     | 16 August 1960 |
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. A 12-page report on the city of Sverdlovsk

includes the following information:

The report

- a. Uralmash Heavy Machine Building Plant: General information on production, details on security procedures, and data on plant personalities.
- b. Plant No. 9: Production of antiaircraft guns. Explosions were heard at a proving grounds in Sverdlovsk, and it was rumored that the guns produced at Plant No. 9 and the tanks at the Uralmash Plant were tested there.
- c. Living conditions.
- d. Atomic plant at Verkh.-Neyvinsk (N 57-16, E 60-09). In 1955, passengers on a train passing through the Verkh.-Neyvinsk railroad station observed sentries posted along the track, on both sides of the station. They also saw a number of buildings with small windows which appeared to be jutting out of the ground. Muzrukov (fnu) was rumored to have been appointed director of the plant in 1951.
- e. Overlay to City Plan of Sverdlovsk, scale 1:40,000. The overlay locates 53 points.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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COUNTRY:

USSR (Sverdlovsk Oblast)

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SUBJECT:

Industrial Plants and Workers  
Conditions in Sverdlovsk

1. The Uralmash Plant (Uralskoye Mashinostroyeniye) in Sverdlovsk, one of the largest plants in the USSR, employed about 150,000 workers and was subordinate to the All-Union Ministry of Heavy Industry. Since World War II, the plant had been engaged in iron and steel casting for the production of metal rolling machines and "walking excavators" (shagayushchiye ekskavator). These excavators had a hoisting capacity of 50 tons, and their shovels (koush) could encompass and lift a heavily loaded freight truck. All of the machinery was assembled in the plant's largest department, known as Assembly Shop (sborochney Tsekh) No. 101.

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2. The Uralmash plant had produced tanks during World War II. In the postwar period, a number of so-called "N" departments (enskiye tsekha) were established at the plant and, though their purpose was a carefully guarded secret, they were rumored to produce tanks. These departments, which were strictly out-of-bounds to all unauthorized persons, were supervised by military technical inspection teams of Technical Corps officers, who wore black shoulderboards.
3. The entry permits issued to Uralmash workers permitted access only to the particular department in which the employee worked; the department's number was printed on the permit. Permits bearing a red star, however, permitted the bearer to enter all the departments during the daytime, while permits bearing a green star permitted the bearer to enter all departments, both day and night.
4. Within the Uralmash plant area, various departments were being enlarged and new ones constructed. In late 1956, the construction of a new department (tsekh), No. 113, was completed (no further details).
5. [redacted] since early 1960, the Construction Office (Konstruktorskoye Byuro) had been known as NII (Nauchno Issledovatel'skiy Institut). No further details were known [redacted]

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6. Plant No. 9 in Sverdlovsk, which was rumored to produce anti-aircraft guns, was located at the southern end of the Uralmash plant area but was entirely independent of the latter. It had an independent directorate and was out-of-bounds to all but its own employees. Plant No. 9's only link with the Uralmash plant was their joint construction department. Plant No. 9 was also supervised by a military technical inspection team. During World War II, the director of Plant No. 9 was a major general (general-mayor). The anti-aircraft guns rumored to be produced by the plant were taken out of the plant after dark and covered with tarpaulins.
7. At a proving grounds (poligon) located in the vicinity of the "Ekskavatorniy Pos~~el~~ok" housing project, explosions were frequently heard. It was rumored that the guns produced at Plant No. 9 and the tanks at the Uralmash plant were tested at the site. An armored corps unit was stationed at the grounds which, too, were out-of-bounds for all unauthorized persons.
8. The living conditions of Sverdlovsk factory workers, who constituted the bulk of the population, left much to be desired. The

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workers' housing project of the Uralmash plant consisted of long, wood structures composed of single-room apartments. The worker and his family lived in one room and shared a kitchen and other conveniences with three other families. Such close quarters, affecting normal family life as they did, often gave rise to petty quarreling among neighbors. The wages, moreover, were relatively low when contrasted to market prices. The average skilled worker earned between 1,000 and 1,200 rubles per month, hardly sufficient to support a family. The bitterness felt by the workers over these conditions was never expressed in public, but rather was the subject of private conversations among friends. As of early 1957, no one had yet dared make any criticism or express any dissatisfaction at the general meetings of the workers. These meetings were carefully prepared by the plant's Party cell.

9. A shortage in Sverdlovsk of various consumer goods added to the hardships of the worker. Meat and white bread were difficult to obtain; during a long period there was no meat in the shops at all. The widespread rumors of new currency devaluations, which were commonplace during the early postwar years, tended to undermine the confidence of the worker and resulted in his spending savings on consumer goods.

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10. The worker cared little about his dress, for wearing apparel was of inferior quality and the prices were prohibitive. An average-quality suit cost about 1,500 rubles, a pair of men's shoes about 300 to 350 rubles, and women's shoes up to 500 rubles. Dress, therefore, was simple and, in winter, consisted of the traditional padded clothes and felt boots (valenki). Tailors, shoemakers, and other tradesmen were not permitted to work privately but had to form cooperatives. The Ministry of Finance (Finotd<sup>el</sup>) frequently sent teams of inspectors to the various workshops to check on them and to ensure that they were not breaking the law by doing private work.
11. Because of an absence of suitable sanitary conditions and bathrooms in the workers' apartments, the single public bathhouse, which could accommodate only 300 persons at a time, was entirely inadequate. On Saturdays and Sundays, the workers queued up for many hours waiting to bathe.
12. There was a 400-seat movie theater at the Uralmash employees' housing project, but it was not large enough to meet the demands of the growing population, and tickets were difficult to obtain.

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13. In recent years, extensive housing projects had been under construction, with entire streets of old buildings being razed and five or six-story, glazed-brick apartment buildings being constructed in their place. In 1956-1957, new six-story apartment houses were constructed on Sverdlov Street, where old buildings had been demolished. The construction of living accommodations was financed by the plants and institutions, each of which was committed by annual plan to erect a certain number of apartments for its employees. Since 1955-1956, air raid shelters had to be constructed under each new building.
14. Other industrial plants in Sverdlovsk included in the following:
- a. The Elmarsh Plant, located to the north of Sverdlovsk, which produced electric motors for washing machines and other electrical appliances (no further details).
  - b. The highly secret Plant No. 8, also located to the north of Sverdlovsk. The deputy director of the plant was an MGB [KGB ?] colonel of the Oblast MGB Directorate; he wore civilian dress.

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- c. Machine Plant No. 50 (Zavod No. 50), located in the vicinity of the Sverdlovsk passenger railroad station (no further details).
15. It was known among the inhabitants of Sverdlovsk that an atomic plant and closed zone existed at Verkh-Neyvinsk. In 1955, the passengers of a train which passed through the Verkh-Neyvinsk railroad station noticed that sentries were posted along the track, on both sides of the station. No one left the train when it came to a stop, but through the windows it was possible to see a number of buildings with small windows which appeared to be jutting out of the ground.
16. The following officials were or had been employed at the Uralmash plant in Sverdlovsk:
- a. Satovskiy (fnu), chief designer of the plant
- 
- b. Vinogradov (fnu), director of the plant since 1952 and a former department head at the plant,

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- c. Chumichov (fnu), director of the plant  
from 1950 until 1952

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- d. Muzrukov (fnu), director of the plant until  
1950

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- e. Samoylov (fnu), chief engineer at the plant

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- f. Bubnov (fnu), director of the personnel depart-  
ment of the plant until 1955

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- g. Arkadiy Sergeyevich Lubimov, chairman of the  
Uralmash plant committee (Zavkom)

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- h. Levkovich (fnu), deputy director for supplies  
at the plant

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- i. Medvedev (fnu), secretary of the Party cell  
at the plant

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- j. Col. Antoshchin (fnu), deputy director of the  
plant during World War II and until 1950

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17. Attached is an overlay to City Plan of Sverdlovsk

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Scale 1:40,000, with legend as follows:

1. Lunacharskovo Street.
2. Lenin Street.
3. 8 Marta Street.
4. Tolmacheva Street.
5. Agricultural College.
6. Machine Plant No. 50.
7. Ural Military District Headquarters.
8. City Council (Gorsoviet).
9. City Militia Station No. 9.
10. Oblast MGB Directorate.
11. Polytechnic Institute.
12. Bolshoy-Ural Hotel.
13. Levindovsky Opera House.
14. Central post office.
15. Tsentralnaya Hotel.
16. State University.
17. Military Hospital.

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18. Mining Engineers Institute.
19. Meat Products Plant.
20. Technical Rubber Products Plant (Rezinovo-Tekhnicheskiye Izdelia).
21. Military camp.
22. Military workshops.
23. City Water Works.
24. Uralkhim Mash Plant.
25. Water pumping station.
26. Agricultural Experimental Station.
27. Military camp.
28. Ural branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.
29. Flour Mill and Bakery.
30. Railroad workers' hospital.
31. Passenger railroad station.
32. Railroad workers club.
33. Steel Foundry (Verkhne Isetskiy).
34. Metal Foundry (Vizovskiy).
35. Medical School and Hospital.
36. Lumber stores.
37. Plastic Products Plant (Plastmass).

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38. Mining Machinery Plant.
39. Aircraft Plant No. 214.
40. Chemical Works.
41. Plant No. 8.
42. Power (or transformer) Station.
43. Excavator Plant.
44. Pipe Works.
45. "Ekskavatorniy Pos<sup>e</sup>elok" workers housing project.
46. Uralmash Proving Grounds (poligon).
47. "Rabochiy Pos<sup>e</sup>elok", Uralmash workers' housing project.
48. Uralmash workers' hostel.
49. Uralmash Technical School No. 1.
50. Uralmash Plant.
51. Plant No. 9.
52. Uralmash Hospital and Nurses' College.
53. Food Industry Machinery Plant, "Krasnaya Zvezda".

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